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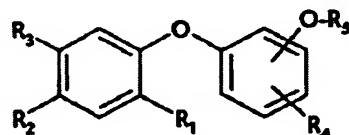
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(54) Title: **USE OF HALOGENATED HYDROXYDIPHENYL ETHER COMPOUNDS FOR THE TREATMENT OF THE SKIN**



(I)

(57) Abstract: The use of hydroxydiphenyl ether compounds of formula (I), wherein R_1 , R_2 and R_3 are each independently of the others hydrogen; hydroxy; C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; hydroxy-substituted C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; C_3 - C_7 cycloalkyl; C_1 - C_{20} alkoxy; C_1 - C_6 alkylcarbonyl; phenyl; or phenyl- C_1 - C_3 alkyl; R_4 is hydrogen, C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; hydroxy-substituted C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; C_3 - C_7 cycloalkyl; hydroxy; formyl; acetonyl; allyl; carboxy; carboxy- C_1 - C_3 alkyl; carboxyallyl; C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl; C_1 - C_6 alkylcarbonyl; C_1 - C_3 alkylcarbonyl- C_1 - C_3 alkyl; phenyl; or phenyl- C_1 - C_3 alkyl; and R_5 is hydrogen; C_1 - C_{20} alkoxy; or C_1 - C_6 alkylcarbonyl; as melanogenesis inhibitors and for lightening the skin.